



George A. Smathers Libraries
Office of the Dean of University Libraries

535 Library West
PO Box 117001
Gainesville, FL 32611-7001
352-273-2505
352-392-7251 Fax
www.uflib.ufl.edu

September 23, 2008

Brewster Kahle
Digital Librarian, Director and Co-Founder
Internet Archive
116 Sheridan Avenue
The Presidio of San Francisco
San Francisco CA 94129

Dear Brewster:

I am writing to confirm my participation in the project to digitize the legacy print collection of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). The systematic digitization of the legacy print collections will significantly improve discovery and access as well as the preservation of this important public asset.

Internet Archive is uniquely situated to lead this initiative, with a proven track record of high volume, high quality digitization of print materials with a variety of characteristics in support of both preservation and broad public access. The diversity of the print government documents collection with respect to size, condition and variety of formats presents a significant challenge. Most other organizations doing high volume digitization limit the size and other characteristics of print formats that they digitize. Some digitize only for access, without the application of sufficient resolution and other standards that assure preservation and allow users of the digital content to view the small fonts and other details that often appear in the text, maps and illustrations in these publications.

The collaboration with the Law Library Microform Consortium (LLMC) adds a strong partner with a demonstrated capability for sustained high volume, high quality digitization of print materials related to law, regulation and governance. An estimated 26% of the legacy print collection of Federal government publications is within the scope of the LLMC mission.

I am committed to working with Internet Archive and LLMC to complete this project. As the former Superintendent of Documents and the Dean of University libraries for a major research university that serves as a regional depository library, I can serve as an effective advocate for the project and as a liaison to the depository library community and other individuals and institutions outside that community who recognize the value of establishing a comprehensive digital collection in a manner that both supports no-fee public access and permits aggregation and re-dissemination of the content through commercial publishing initiatives.

The Foundation for The Gator Nation

An Equal Opportunity Institution

My initial efforts will be focused on confirming the additional financial commitments necessary to support Internet Archive and LLMC in fulfillment of this contract. I will also assist in the identification of libraries willing to provide access to their collections and other in-kind services to facilitate this effort.

I have a strong personal commitment to this project. I believe it will make a significant difference in the way that the public discovers and uses Federal government information. It will also allow all 1,250 depository libraries to more effectively manage our print collections and better serve our diverse constituencies, who increasingly prefer 24/7 online access to support their personal and professional inquiries.

I look forward to working with you on this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith C. Russell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Judith" being more prominent.

Judith C. Russell
Dean of University Libraries